

Message Text

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PAGE 01 KABUL 08285 281118Z

ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 SSM-03 IO-13 CIAE-00 DODE-00

PM-05 H-01 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01

PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 AID-05 EB-08 OMB-01

TRSE-00 /099 W

-----120594 281254Z /44

R 280750Z NOV 77

FM AMEMBASSY KABUL

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5401

INFO AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD

AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI

AMEMBASSY TEHRAN

AMEMBASSY CAIRO

AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

AMEMBASSY LONDON

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, AF, XF

SUBJECT: AFGHAN REACTION TO PRESIDENT SADAT'S TRIP TO ISRAEL IS
RELATIVELY EVENHANDED

1. THE COVERAGE BY THE AFGHAN MEDIA (WHICH ARE ALL
GOVERNMENT-CONTROLLED) OF PRESIDENT SADAT'S VISIT TO
ISRAEL, HAS BEEN FAIRLY HEAVY OVER THE PAST FEW DAYS. IN
GENERAL, THE COVERAGE HAS BEEN RELATIVELY BALANCED,
AND HAS INCLUDED REPORTS OF EGYPTIAN OPTIMISM, AS WELL
AS THE RESIGNATIONS OF FAHMY AND RIAD AND CONDEMNATIONS OF
THE TRIP BY THE PLO, THE LIBYANS AND OTHERS.

2. THERE HAS, AS YET, BEEN NO OFFICIAL GOVERNMENT STATEMENT
ON THESE EVENTS, AND, IN LINE WITH THEIR USUAL CAREFUL
PRACTICE, WE DO NOT EXPECT THE AFGHAN GOVERNMENT TO
TAKE A PUBLIC POSITION. IN PRIVATE, HOWEVER, SOME
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PAGE 02 KABUL 08285 281118Z

FOREIGN MINISTRY OFFICIALS HAVE EXPRESSED CAUTIOUS OPTIMISM
THAT PERHAPS A BREAKTHROUGH HAS BEEN MADE, BUT THAT A
SOLUTION TO THESE COMPLEX ISSUES REMAINS ELUSIVE.

3. AN EGYPTIAN DIPLOMAT TOLD AN EMBASSY OFFICER NOVEMBER 20
RXHAT THE TWO EGYPTIAN OFFICERS ASSIGNED HERE HAD MADE
PREPARATIONS TO SLEEP AT THEIR EMBASSY, AND THAT EXTRA

SECURITY HAD BEEN REQUESTED FROM THE AFGHAN GOVERNMENT. WE HAVE NOT HEARD OF ANY DEMONSTRATIONS WHICH MIGHT HAVE BEEN MOUNTED AT THE EGYPTIAN EMBASSY, NOR HAVE THERE BEEN ANY RUMORS OF POTENTIALLY HOSTILE REACTION FROM ANY QUARTER IN KABUL.

4. COMMENT: KABUL'S RESPONSE TO SADAT'S TRIP TO ISRAEL GENERALLY REFLECTS THE TRADITIONAL AFGHAN POLICY TOWARD THE LARGER ISSUES OF THE MIDDLE EAST. ALTHOUGH DISTANT FROM THAT THEATER AND NON--SEMITIC, AFGHANISTAN FEELS A CERTAIN REQUIREMENT TO SUPPORT ITS MUSLIM BROTHERS, WHILE AT THE SAME TIME THE AFGHANS HOPE AND EXPECT THAT THIS SUPPORT WILL BE RECIPROCATED IN SOME CONCRETE FASHION --- SUCH AS BY ECONOMIC ASSISTANCE EXTENDED BY SOME OF THE MORE AFFLUENT ARAB STATES.
ELIOT

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Message Attributes

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Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 28-Nov-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
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Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
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Disposition Remarks:
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